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Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan

Financing arrangements for the United Nations Mission in the Sudan for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 62/267 on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), the General Assembly appropriated for UNMIS the total amount of $858,771,200 gross for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, inclusive of $820,720,600 gross for the maintenance of the Mission, $33,169,900 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and $4,880,700 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (UNLB).

2. Resources approved by the General Assembly for UNMIS provided for the authorized strength of 750 military observers, 9,250 military contingent personnel, 715 United Nations police officers, 1,037 international and 2,860 national staff (including 89 temporary positions), 353 United Nations Volunteers and 40 Government-provided personnel.

3. Based on the prevailing pattern of expenditures during the first seven months of the 2008/09 financial period, major funding shortfalls are projected across three major areas, namely for the costs of personnel, fuel and aircraft rental.

4. In each of these areas, budgetary requirements were approved taking into account entitlement rates and market prices at the time of budget preparation. As the situation has evolved, actual costs faced by the Mission have consistently exceeded budget forecasts, resulting in the projected additional requirements, estimated at $65.1 million, including:

(a) Additional personnel-related costs (military, police and civilian personnel) of $37 million due to the extension of hazardous duty station entitlements to all mission areas, increased national staff salary scales, lower vacancy rates and increased costs for troop and contingent-owned equipment rotations;

(b) Additional costs of $14.7 million due to increased contractual rates for aircraft rental agreements, without exceeding projected flight hours;

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(c) Additional costs of $13.4 million due to a 53 per cent increase in prices for diesel fuel and a 37 per cent increase in prices for jet fuel without exceeding the usage pattern.

5. In addition to the above, the Mission has incurred additional costs of some $22.6 million for the current budget period in procurement and construction projects deferred from the 2007/08 financial period due to the tight budgetary situation faced by the Mission during that time. This has, in turn, limited the capacity of the Mission to absorb the additional requirements during the current period.

6. UNMIS has made every effort to offset these escalating prices, reviewing its overall operational requirements, reprioritizing activities and operations and delaying acquisitions and construction projects where possible. Rental agreements on five aircraft have been terminated, including four helicopters and one fixed-wing aircraft, and a rationing regime for fuel implemented. The cancellation of aircraft rental agreements has made $7 million available to partially offset the additional air transportation costs.

7. The additional requirements would be further offset by the total projected unutilized balance of $4,554,600, including for communications ($2,149,700), medical services ($1,166,600), special equipment ($698,500), general temporary assistance ($382,700), Government-provided personnel ($130,800) and information technology ($26,300). The projected unutilized resources are mainly due to lower requirements in self-sustainment items, commercial communications and medical consumables.

8. The additional requirements, partially offset by the aforementioned reductions in expenditures, gives rise to a net additional requirement of $56,173,100 in the 2008/09 period, as detailed in the table below:

Additional resources requirement for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

(Thousands of United States dollars)

			Variance	
	Apportionment	*Total projected expenditures*	*Amount*	*Percentage*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)=(3)÷(1)*
Military and police personnel				
Military observers	29 754.5	31 728.6	(1 974.1)	(6.6)
Military contingents	221 212.9	230 235.6	(9 022.7)	(4.1)
United Nations police	32 442.1	38 245.9	(5 803.8)	(17.9)
Formed police units	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**283 409.5**	**300 210.1**	**(16 800.6)**	**(5.9)**
Civilian personnel				
International staff	112 838.2	123 663.9	(10 825.7)	(9.6)
National staff	40 755.5	50 462.8	(9 707.3)	(23.8)
United Nations Volunteers	10 589.5	10 677.2	(87.7)	(0.8)
General temporary assistance	4 030.8	3 648.1	382.7	9.5
Subtotal	**168 214.0**	**188 452.0**	**(20 238.0)**	**(12.0)**

Category	Apportionment (1)	Total projected expenditures (2)	Variance Amount (3)=(1)-(2)	Variance Percentage (4)=(3)÷(1)
Operational costs				
Government-provided personnel	1 768.7	1 637.9	130.8	7.4
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—
Consultants	470.9	470.9	—	—
Official travel	5 130.6	5 484.1	(353.5)	(6.9)
Facilities and infrastructure	89 876.3	95 966.1	(6 089.8)	(6.8)
Ground transportation	21 313.7	23 024.1	(1 710.4)	(8.0)
Air transportation	136 911.3	145 883.8	(8 972.5)	(6.6)
Naval transportation	54.5	67.3	(12.8)	(23.5)
Communications	20 194.3	18 044.6	2 149.7	10.6
Information technology	10 846.5	10 820.2	26.3	0.2
Medical	10 477.6	9 311.0	1 166.6	11.1
Special equipment	2 664.1	1 965.6	698.5	26.2
Other supplies services and equipment	68 388.6	74 556.0	(6 167.4)	(9.0)
Quick-impact projects	1 000.0	1 000.0	—	—
Subtotal	**369 097.1**	**388 231.6**	**(19 134.5)**	**(5.2)**
Gross requirements	**820 720.6**	**876 893.7**	**(56 173.1)**	**(6.8)**
Staff assessment income	18 850.3	20 018.9	(1 168.6)	(6.2)
Net requirements	**801 870.3**	**56 874.8**	**(55 004.5)**	**(6.9)**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**820 720.6**	**876 893.7**	**(56 173.1)**	**(6.8)**

9. In addition to the above, UNMIS anticipates continued funding pressure for the remainder of the year as a result of the preparations for elections in the Sudan, security enhancements, rotation of contingents in the reconfiguration of the Mission's military force and increases in rations prices, which will further limit its capacity to offset the additional resource requirements it faces.

10. Against this background, the Secretariat considers the request for additional appropriation, with assessment, exceptional, owing to: (a) the additional requirements, which primarily relate to cash resources for payment of mission subsistence allowance to military observers, United Nations police and international staff, salaries and related costs for national staff and payment to commercial vendors for generators, vehicle and aircraft fuel; (b) payments for inland freight of contingent-owned equipment; and (c) additional requirements, which represent 6.8 per cent of the approved budget for UNMIS. The Mission does not have the capacity to absorb these costs.

11. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNMIS are:**

(a) **Appropriation of the amount of $56,173,100 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, in addition to the amount of $820,720,600 already appropriated for the same period for the maintenance of the Mission under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 62/267;**

(b) **Assessment of the amount of $46,810,916 for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 April 2009;**

(c) **Assessment of the amount of $9,362,184 at a monthly rate of $4,681,092, should the Security Council decide to continue the mandate of the Mission beyond 30 April 2009.**